

AMENDING THE ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISH-  
MENT OF THE CORONADO INTERNATIONAL MEMO-  
RIAL, IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA

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JUNE 25, 1952.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State  
of the Union and ordered to be printed

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Mr. MURDOCK, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,  
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 7553]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7553) to amend the act entitled "An act to provide for the establishment of the Coronado International Memorial, in the State of Arizona," approved August 18, 1941 (55 Stat. 630), having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

EXPLANATION OF THE BILL

This bill would amend the Coronado International Memorial Act of August 18, 1941, by changing the designation of the proposed area from an international memorial to a national memorial, and by eliminating the proviso requiring Mexico to establish a comparable memorial area before one is established in the United States. No appropriation of Federal funds is requested.

The original act was passed for the purpose of honoring the great Spanish explorer, Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, who in 1540 explored the southwestern part of the United States. The act proposed an international memorial to be established at the point on the Mexican border where Coronado entered this country.

The Department of the Interior, in reporting on H. R. 7553, advises that while the Government of Mexico has shown a great deal of interest in the proposed memorial, it has been unsuccessful, due to a combination of circumstances, in establishing its part of the memorial. The Department feels that the American area should be established as soon as possible and recommends the enactment of H. R. 7553.

## 2 ESTABLISH CORONADO INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL IN ARIZONA

The United States lands within the area authorized by the 1941 act are public domain.

The favorable report of the Department of the Interior further explains the purpose of H. R. 7553 and is set forth below:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington 25, D. C., May 23, 1952.

Hon. JOHN R. MURDOCK,  
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,  
House of Representatives, Washington 25, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. MURDOCK: Your committee has requested a report on H. R. 7553, to amend the act entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of the Coronado International Memorial, in the State of Arizona", approved August 18, 1941 (55 Stat. 630).

We recommend the enactment of this proposed legislation.

This bill would amend the Coronado International Memorial Act of August 18, 1941, in two particulars. It would change the designation of the proposed area from that of an international memorial to a national memorial. It would also amend the 1941 act by striking from that act the proviso which requires that before the memorial area is established in the United States, a comparable area be first established in Mexico by the Government of Mexico to adjoin the memorial area in the United States.

Although it has shown much interest in the proposed Coronado International Memorial, the Government of Mexico has been unsuccessful thus far in establishing the memorial area on the Mexican side of the border. This has been due to a combination of circumstances. The intervening war years have necessarily retarded progress. However, the unwillingness of the owners of the Mexican lands to break up their holdings and to turn a portion of their lands over to the Mexican Government for purposes of the international memorial has been a major factor in preventing establishment of the Mexican area. We are convinced, nevertheless, that if the proposed Coronado National Memorial is established in this country, the Government of Mexico will eventually find a way to establish a comparable area in Mexico. When this is done, it will, of course, have an important significance in promoting our relations with Mexico. In the meantime, we strongly feel that the American area should be established as promptly as possible. All of the lands within the authorized area are public lands and are ideally suited to memorial purposes. The high promontory of the area, which is the predominant feature on the American side, will serve as a focal point overlooking the valleys which Coronado traversed in entering what is now the United States. This area, for years, has been a retreat and place of study for students, scientists, botanists, ornithologists, writers, artists, and others.

We have been advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there is no objection to the submission of this report to your committee.

Sincerely yours,

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,  
*Secretary of the Interior.*

### CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 2a of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as introduced, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

(55 Stat. 630)

That for the purpose of permanently commemorating the explorations of Francisco Vazquez de Coronado, the President of the United States is authorized to declare, by proclamation, any lands within the following-described area, subject to all valid existing rights, to be established as the "Coronado [International] National Memorial":

Gila and Salt River meridian; Township 24 south, range 20 east, section 10, south half southwest quarter, south half southeast quarter; section 11, south

half southwest quarter; section 13, southwest quarter northwest quarter, south half; section 14, northwest quarter, south half, northwest quarter northeast quarter; south half northeast quarter; section 15, all; section 22, all; section 23, all; section 24, all; township 24 south, range 21 east, section 17, south half southwest quarter; section 18, southwest quarter, south half southeast quarter; section 19, all; section 20, lots 3 and 4; aggregating approximately two thousand eight hundred and eighty acres: [Provided, That said proclamation shall not be issued until the President of the United States shall have been advised through official channels that the Government of Mexico has established, or provided for the establishment of an area of similar type and size adjoining the area described herein.]

SEC. 2. The National Park Service, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, shall promote and regulate the use of the Coronado [International] National Memorial \* \* \*.

Enactment of H. R. 7553 is unanimously recommended by the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.



